



SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE NO. 16  
DATE 2-19-07  
SB 293

(406) 677-2201

379 Boy Scout Road • P.O. Box 549 • Seeley Lake, Montana 59868

## Senate Natural Resources

2/19/07

## SB 293 Testimony

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Gordon Sanders, Resource Manager for Pyramid Mountain Lumber, Inc., a small family-owned Forest Products mill in the rural community of Seeley Lake, Montana. On behalf of our 155 hard-working Montana families at Pyramid, I offer the following testimony in support of the "Montana Sustainable Forests Use Act."

Pyramid believes sustainable forest management is critical for restoring structural diversity of forested stands, increasing resiliency of forests to insects and disease, enhancing wildlife habitat and restoring watershed health. We also believe active forest management is essential to maintain the ecological, economic, and social integrity of Montana's forests and rural communities like Seeley Lake.

SB 293 reflects the first attempt by Montana's Legislature to craft a vision for our unique public forest lands and establishes direction for DNRC's active engagement in National Forest Policy, direction and decisions from its perspective as responsible forest stewards.

In closing, Pyramid is supportive of the "Montana Sustainable Forests Use Act" and encourages the committee to also support this bill as symbol of their support for family-owned sawmills in rural communities across Montana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Sanders", written in dark ink.

Gordon Sanders  
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